

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method for identifying a change in a public address for a client on a private network, wherein the client has a private address on the private network that is associated with the public address by an address translation device to facilitate communications on a public network, the method comprising:
 - a) receiving a message over the private network from the public network via the address translation device, the message having the public address of the client as provided by the address translation device;
 - b) identifying the public address from the message received over the private network;
 - c) comparing the public address with a stored public address representing a previously identified public address; and
 - d) determining if the public address is different than the stored public address.
2. The method of claim 1 further storing the public address from the message received over the private network as the stored public address.
3. The method of claim 2 further comprising initiating a message to at least one device on the public network to allow the at least one device to obtain the public address associated with the client and provided by the address translation device.
4. The method of claim 1 further comprising initiating a message to at least one device on the public network to allow the at least one device to obtain the public address associated with the client and provided by the address translation device.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

- a) replicating the public address for the client in the message at a device on the public network; and
 - b) over the public network, sending the message to the public address, which corresponds to an address of the network address translation device on the public network.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the client communicates using the session initiation protocol, SIP.
 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the public address is stored in a contact header of the message.
 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the public address includes an Internet Protocol (IP) address.
 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the public address includes a port address.
 10. The method of claim 1 wherein the public address includes an Internet Protocol address and a port address.
 11. The method of claim 1 wherein the public address was generated according to Network Address Translation (NAT).
 12. The method of claim 1 wherein the public address was generated according to Network Address and Port Translation (NAPT).
 13. A client capable of identifying a change in a public address on a private network, wherein the client has a private address on the private network and is associated with the public address by an address translation device to facilitate communications on a public network, the client comprising:
 - a) an interface adapted to facilitate communications via the private network;

- b) a control system associated with the interface and adapted to:
- i) receive a message over the private network from the public network via the address translation device, the message having the public address of the client as provided by the address translation device;
 - ii) identify the public address from the message received over the private network;
 - iii) compare the public address with a stored public address representing a previously identified public address; and
 - iv) determine if the public address is different than the stored public address.
14. The client of claim 13 wherein the control system is further adapted to store the public address from the message received over the private network as the stored public address.
15. The client of claim 14 wherein the control system is further adapted to initiate a message to at least one device on the public network to allow the at least one device to obtain the public address associated with the client and provided by the address translation device.
16. The client of claim 13 wherein the control system is further adapted to initiate a message to at least one device on the public network to allow the at least one device to obtain the public address associated with the client and provided by the address translation device.
17. A computer readable medium having software providing a client capable of identifying a change in a public address on a private network, wherein the client has a private address on the private network and is associated with the public address by an address translation device to facilitate communications on a public network, the software comprising instructions for a computer to:
- a) receive a message over the private network from the public network via the address translation device, the message having

the public address of the client as provided by the address translation device;

- b) identify the public address from the message received over the private network;
 - c) compare the public address with a stored public address representing a previously identified public address; and
 - d) determine if the public address is different than the stored public address.
18. The computer readable medium of claim 17 further comprising instructions to store the public address from the message received over the private network as the stored public address.
19. The computer readable medium of claim 18 further comprising instructions to initiate a message to at least one device on the public network to allow the at least one device to obtain the public address associated with the client and provided by the address translation device.
20. The computer readable medium of claim 17 further comprising instructions to initiate a message to at least one device on the public network to allow the at least one device to obtain the public address associated with the client and provided by the address translation device.

10034261.12301